

MTA-8005

1 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- July 1985

I. GENERAL

The new U.S. ambassador to Israel, Thomas Pickering, arrived in Israel on 28 July and paid a very brief inspection visit to the bureau the following day.

II. OPERATIONAL

A. Monitorial/Editorial

HEBREW SECTION

The economy and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation dominated the sections' attention during the month. The month began with a marathon session Cabinet session to approve an emergency economic plan the main points of which call for \$750 million cut in government activities, an 18.8% devaluation, a 3% cut in public sector wages but with 3% less compensation for wage erosion than that given other workers in the economy, a general price increase of 17 percent, with many prices going up as much as 30%, and additional advance tax payment by the self-employed. Following these measures, wages and prices, as well as the currency exchange rate, were to be frozen for 3 months. The package was met by a series of strikes forcing the government, after several marathon sessions involving Prime Minister Peres, Finance Minister Moda'i and Histadrut Secretary General Qevsar, to retreat to a 14% increment for private and public sector employees in their next paycheck, a 12% increase for both sectors on 1 September and compensation to be paid whenever the cost of living index exceeds 4% a month. In exchange, the government called for a 6% cut in public sector employment. Implementation of this cut is still under discussion.

The subject of terrorism was covered extensively throughout the month, beginning with the conviction and sentencing of the Jewish underground terrorists, and the pressures to obtain an amnesty for them. The month ended with consideration being given to tougher measures to handle increasing acts of terrorism in the territories.

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The subject of the composition of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, whether talks should be held with it, who it should talk to it and what should be discussed with it took on new urgency with the report that a list of names compiled by the PLO had been submitted to the United States. By the end of the month there were still no definitive answers to any of these questions.

TURKISH SECTION

The Turkish section followed the annual "Peace and Freedom" day celebrations and the approval of a new coalition government in northern Cyprus.

In Turkey there were reports of a growing number of "separatists" killed or captured.

PERSIAN SECTION

Persian monitor [] returned from a month's leave on 24 July and resumed coverage of Moscow Dari and NVOI.

B. Lateral Services

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

Bureau FBN employees received vacation bonus pay of 47.074 shekels per day depending on length of service. Bureau employees also received a COLA increase of 14% retroactive to 1 July.

Headquarters technician [] arrived on TDY 15 July to help with the bureau's move during bureau engineer [] home leave.

Editor [] arrived PCS 29 July.

Jordan Bureau teletypist [] paid a brief visit to the bureau on 25 July. He was briefed on the communications sections operations by supervisor []

Hebrew monitor [] became the father of a 3.4 kilo baby girl. []

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[redacted] from HQ Engineering Division. visited the bureau from 29 July to 1 August.

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Electronic Technician [redacted] returned from reserve duty on 24 July.

B. Building and Grounds

The focus of attention this month in the new office turned to contract matters when the construction company notified us that the building will not be completed by 1 August. the occupancy date set under the contract. Numerous meetings with lawyers and all sides failed to produce a satisfactory settlement of the problem by month's end. Meanwhile work continued. highlighted by the completion of the microwave room on the embassy roof. the closing of the ceiling. installation of the interior HVAC air handler. and the delivery of the modular monitoring units. All equipment and furniture to complete the move are in country. with installation only awaiting the finishing interior work. The arrival of headquarters technician [redacted] on TDY has accelerated the technical preparations.

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[redacted]
Chief. FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

Attachments: a. Production Report
b. Communications Report

Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for JULY 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	250560
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	51930
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	762

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	6193.00 min.	10520.00 min.	51.00 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)			

Clandestine Bavrak Radio in Turkish	9680
Clandestine Bavrak Radio in English	2980
Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian	1200
Clandestine Our Radio in Turkish	1340
Clandestine Voice of Turkish Communist Party in Turkish	2640

CYPRUS	
Nicosia ANATOLIA in Turkish	0

ISRAEL	
Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	70270
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	11410
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	17500
Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic	1000
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	25320
Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew	5470
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English	1830

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BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew		0
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English		13160
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew		2520
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew		2310
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew		3000
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew		17390
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew		0
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew		2640
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew		220
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew		15350
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew		7860
SOVIET UNION		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew	2930	
Moscow in Dari	300	
TURKEY		
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	23690	
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish		1410
Ankara ANATOLIA in English		6310
Ankara ANATOLIA in French		830
UNITED KINGDOM		
London BBC World Service in English	0	

TEL AVIV BUREAU MONTHLY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR JULY 1985 ATTACHMENT B

1. TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 250,560 (265,690)
TOTAL NONPUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 51,930 (70,720)
DAILY WORDAGE FILED AVERAGED 9,758 (11,214)
HIGHEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 22,820 on 1 JULY 1985
LOWEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 2,900 on 27 JULY 1985
2. OUTAGES ON OUTGOING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 15 HOURS, 2.9 PERCENT.
OUTAGES ON INCOMING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 16 HOURS, 3.1 PERCENT.
OUTAGES: 6 July - Problem
 8 July - Maintenance on local satellite
 14 July - Satellite off the air
 16 July - Testing new equipment locally

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3. WORDS FILED VIA TELEX DURING OUTAGES OF THE SKYMUX CIRCUIT: 650

NB. Figures from preceding month in Parentheses.